

# GREEN UP DAY!

By Charlie

***The first Green Up Day in Vermont was in 1970 when Governor Deane Davis came up with the idea of Green Up Day. They closed the interstate highways from 9am-12pm. There were more than 70,000 volunteers. They cleaned nearly 100% of all the trash on the roads. 90% of the trash was beer bottles. In 1980 the green up poster launched and kids around the state submitted their masterpieces. The winner gets a cash prize and an invitation to the state house. In 2020 it reached its 50th anniversary.***

It seemed like a normal day at school, except my teacher was dressed like she was going to a junkyard! She was carrying a bunch of green bags and a box of gloves. She had big mud boots on and a rain jacket. So, it suddenly didn't seem like a normal day of school anymore!

She handed us all gloves and a bag. "It's green up day!" the teacher said happily. "Go get your boots and coats on," said the teacher.

"But it's raining," said a voice from the other side of the room. "It's only a sprinkle," said the teacher. She put us into 2 groups, one with her and another with the student teacher. I was put into the group with the student teacher but my best friend was in the group with the teacher. My group went up the road towards my house. We started off by just finding bottle caps and old cans etc. I found a cool broken glass cup. It had a picture of a lion on it but

the student teacher said to throw it away anyway. I was walking along until I saw this string in the ground. I started to pull it but it was really stuck deep into the ground. I told my friend about it and we both started to pull the string, it came out a little but was still stuck. Some other people started to help but it was no use. I told the student teacher about it and he told everyone to help. We all pulled and it came out a ton more but it was still stuck. Someone said on the count of 3 we all pull as hard as we can, "1.. 2.. 3..!" The string popped out of the ground and we all fell backward.

"We did it!" I said happily. After that we went back to the school. We met up with the other group, but some of them were missing. But I did not say anything because I assumed the teachers knew where they were. Then I saw them coming up the hill with what looked like a giant hot tub. But when they got closer it was not an old hot tub it was a whole broken trampoline! The teacher gave my best friend who had found the trampoline a reward for the biggest piece of trash found. But I got a reward for the longest trash found, for that piece of string!

When I went home I told my parents about all the strange things we found and we talked about how good it felt to help clean up Salisbury on Green Up Day!